

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Italy

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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- 25X1A<sup>1</sup>.
- On the afternoon of [REDACTED] a secret meeting attended by the local leaders of the Partito Comunista Italiano (PCI; Italian Communist Party) and of those of the Partito Socialista Italiano (PSI; Italian Socialist Party), was held in the headquarters of the Milan PCI Federation. The meeting was presided over by an unnamed envoy of the PCI Directorate and among those present were Giuseppe Alberganti, the Milan Federation Vice-Secretary, Giovanni Brambilla, Francesco Scotti, and Italo Busetto for the PCI; and Francesco Mariani, Riccardo Lombardi, President of the Azienda Tranviaria Municipale (ATM; The Municipal Transportation Company) and Adriano Bernardi for the PSI.
  - The meeting was held in order to discuss the present internal and international political situation in relation to the Korean conflict and to arrange for the issuing of precise directives so that in the future there would be no divergencies of orientation concerning the activities and propaganda of the PCI and the PSI. The reason for this action may be found in the recent attitude of the Socialist Press, which, regarding the Korean conflict, instead of siding with the Communist Press and publishing, without reticence, that the aggression was provoked by the Government of South Korea, had, on the contrary, side-stepped the issue as to who was the aggressor. The Socialist Press limited itself to mentioning that the struggle for the emancipation and unification of the two Korean Republics had begun.
  - This cautious attitude of Avanti, the PSI newspaper, furnished the independent and rightist press grounds for isolating the PCI from the Communists and accusing the PCI of falsehoods. The editor of Avanti was held responsible for not having followed the political directives agreed upon between the two parties, as outlined in their "Pact of Unity of Action". Francesco Mariani defended the editor, affirming that the news, arriving by surprise, did not permit the taking of a definite stand. After some debate on this subject, which, according to the Communists, was evidence of the lack of identical points of view between the two parties, the envoy of the PCI Directorate pointed out the necessity of stronger unity between the two parties. The respective editors of the PCI newspaper, Unita, and of Avanti (Milan editions) were urged to maintain continual contact, consulting one another whenever it might be necessary to assume a common stand on questions of importance.

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